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Deputy Director of Security (Investigations and Support)

JG-2718
#16989

1. Reference is made to your memorandum which advised that the Subject was being considered for re-employment by Project IPTONIC in the position of an Assistant Editor on the Hungarian Desk in Munich, Germany (Sensitivity #2).

2. Investigation of Subject has been completed by this office and certain noteworthy information was developed which, it is believed, would be of value to you in connection with Subject's employment by IPTONIC. Informants interviewed during our investigation strongly endorsed Subject with regard to his political views and pro-American attitude. He was described as a former member of the Small Holders Party in Hungary and it was stated that he is "moderately rightist" and strongly opposed to Communism.

3. An investigation of Subject by another Government agency in 1954 developed some derogatory information furnished by IPTONIC employees with whom Subject worked from 1951 to 1952. One informant stated that Subject was a rumormonger who talked excessively and possibly could not keep confidential information to himself. Another informant described Subject as a man of poor character who played emigre politics and undermined the position of his supervisor. This informant also doubted that Subject could keep confidential information to himself. Several other informants made favorable comments concerning Subject's IPTONIC employment.

4. Files of another Government agency contain allegations that Subject, while editor of the Hungarian Newspaper A Reggel, had accepted bribes in return for suppressing the publication of certain compromising articles. These allegations were not confirmed. A Reggel, which Subject edited from 1940 to 1943 and from 1945 to 1948, was described as an "inflammatory publication", reason for this description not given; however, Subject himself was held in high esteem.

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5. Although this office recognizes that Subject's previous employment by T-TRONIC was regarded as satisfactory despite certain adverse information furnished by some of his colleagues, it is our recommendation that caution be exercised in handling Subject in view of his alleged inability to keep confidential information to himself and his being regarded as a rumormonger who talks excessively. It is requested that this office be advised in the event that Subject is considered for a position other than the one described in paragraph one of this memorandum.

FOR THE DIRECTOR OF SECURITY:

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